

dedicated member of New Haven's Democratic Town Committee. Aaron is a former member of the City Plan Commission and is currently a member of the City's Disability Commission. Throughout his many years in New Haven's political arena, he has and continues to be a reflection of all that a public servant should be.

Though enjoying retirement from his fifty-year career as an executive with Robby Len Industries, a women's bathing suit manufacturer, Aaron continues to stay extremely active. He is an avid student, continuing to learn through the variety of senior courses offered at our local colleges and universities. He and his wife, Mitzi, recently celebrated their fifty-ninth wedding anniversary and enjoy spending time with their three children and four grandchildren. I am also told that he spends a great deal of time playing with his favorite family member, Tina—the family dog.

Aaron Aronow has remained committed to serving in his community. He is an active member of B'nai B'rith and is currently involved with Congregation Beth Israel in the restoration of the historic Orchard Street Synagogue. This synagogue, one of the oldest in New Haven, was once part of our vibrant Jewish community. In restoring this cultural landmark, Aaron hopes that it will once again become a central meeting place for New Haven families.

As family and friends gather to wish him well, I am sure Aaron will take a moment to reflect on his lifetime of achievements. I am so proud to have this opportunity to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to Aaron Aronow for his many contributions to our community and to join his many friends and family in wishing him a very happy 80th birthday!

COMMEMORATION OF LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, Lithuanian American communities across this nation will be gathering this week to reflect and celebrate the 84th year commemorating Lithuanian independence. In Southfield, Michigan, this community will be gathering on Sunday, February 10, 2002 at the Lithuanian Cultural Center.

On February 16, 1918 the Lithuanian people proclaimed an independent state ruled by the people, free from German military control. For most of the 20th century, however, authoritarian regimes prevented Lithuanian nationalists from enjoying the fruits of liberty and democracy. In 1990, after five decades of oppression under Soviet control and a relentless passion for freedom and democracy, the Lithuanian people once again proclaimed their independence.

The United States' relationship with Lithuania is strong and growing stronger. Today Lithuanian and American leaders, governments and people are able to enjoy a great partnership. A significant goal of this partnership is the commitment to the security of the Baltic region and the promotion of democracy and freedom around the world. To achieve this goal, the Republic of Lithuania is making great economic, social and political progress in an

effort to secure membership to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The role of NATO in preserving peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area is essential for all people; Lithuanians must not be the exception.

Mr. Speaker, I join the people of Lithuania, those of Lithuanian ancestry around the world and Lithuanian Americans in celebrating the 84th Anniversary of Lithuanian Independence. I salute all of them for the tremendous contributions to freedom and human dignity which they have made.

IN HONOR OF BLAKE HASELTON

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Blake Haselton. Mr. Haselton is Superintendent of Oldham County Schools, a district which lies in Kentucky's 4th Congressional District, which I represent.

Last month, Mr. Haselton was named Superintendent of the Year by the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents. He is also being considered for National Superintendent of the Year by the American Association of School Administrators.

Since he began in Oldham County in 1973, Mr. Haselton has served as a high school biology teacher, athletic director, director of guidance services, and principal. He also served as the district's director of pupil personnel before being named superintendent in 1991.

His colleagues praise him as an education leader who is "stays on top of both the academic and financial elements of operating a school system," and "makes his decisions on what's best for kids." The Oldham County Teachers Association says Mr. Haselton is everything teachers want in a superintendent: child-centered, focused on teachers' needs, and an aggressive planner. The chair of the Oldham County Board of Education says Mr. Haselton is a "leader amongst leaders . . . a master teacher" who "Inspires the best in others."

Mr. Haselton also serves his community by doing volunteer work for several recreational, civic, and scouting organizations.

I rise today to congratulate Blake Haselton on being named Kentucky Superintendent of the Year, and to wish him well as he vies for the national. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Haselton for his nearly three decades of outstanding service to the people of Oldham County, Kentucky.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L. BRAY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual from Grand Junction, Colorado. Over the years, Robert L. Bray has distinguished himself as a business executive, a community leader, and a vital participant in maintaining our civic responsibilities through-

out the region. Robert's achievements are impressive, and it is my honor to recognize several of those accomplishments today. Robert is a generous soul whose good deeds and actions certainly deserve the recognition he has recently received.

Robert is the owner and operator of Bray and Co./GMAC Real Estate in Grand Junction, a successful business he has run for years. He has carried on a long tradition of quality guidance and service to his many clients in the area, resulting in a busy operation dedicated to remaining true to high standards of honesty and integrity. His success in the industry has led to several honors including the revamping of the developmental codes in the city, allowing residents to build in areas beneficial to the community residents and businesses.

Throughout his success, Robert and wife Vicky, have remained active in their community that has provided his business the resources to prosper throughout its history. They have actively volunteered their time and energies to community organizations such as Hilltop Community Resources, the Mesa County Library, as well as devoted their efforts to the continuation of a prosperous education system in their volunteer work with Mesa State College.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Bray's achievements have recently been rewarded by his community through the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce. The chamber named Robert the Citizen of the Year, an award given to an outstanding and well deserving individual who has selflessly given of themselves to directly benefit their community. It is now my honor to congratulate Robert on his most recent and well-deserved award from this organization by bringing his good deeds to the attention of this body of Congress, and this nation. Robert, you have been a model citizen for Grand Junction and I extend my thanks for your efforts. Keep up the good work and good luck to you and your wife Vicky in your future endeavors.

HONORING CHRISTIAN HIT RADIO WAY-FM'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor radio station WAYM-FM 88.7 on the occasion of its 10th Anniversary.

"WAY-FM," the name by which it is best known, has truly made a difference in the lives of countless individuals throughout Middle Tennessee, and indeed, across the Nation on its national network of radio stations.

I first became acquainted with WAY-FM through my daughters, Elizabeth and Rachel Clement, who loved to listen to the music of Contemporary Christian artists such as D.C. Talk, Third Day, Sonicflood, and Jennifer Knapp over the airwaves. Upon a personal visit to the station, I was immediately impressed with the work and mission of the staff and its uplifting vision to impact the lives of children, teenagers, college students and adults, under the moniker: "WAY-FM, it is not just a radio station, it is a ministry."

Robert "Bob" and Felice Augsburg founded WAY-FM Media Group, Inc. in 1985. In the